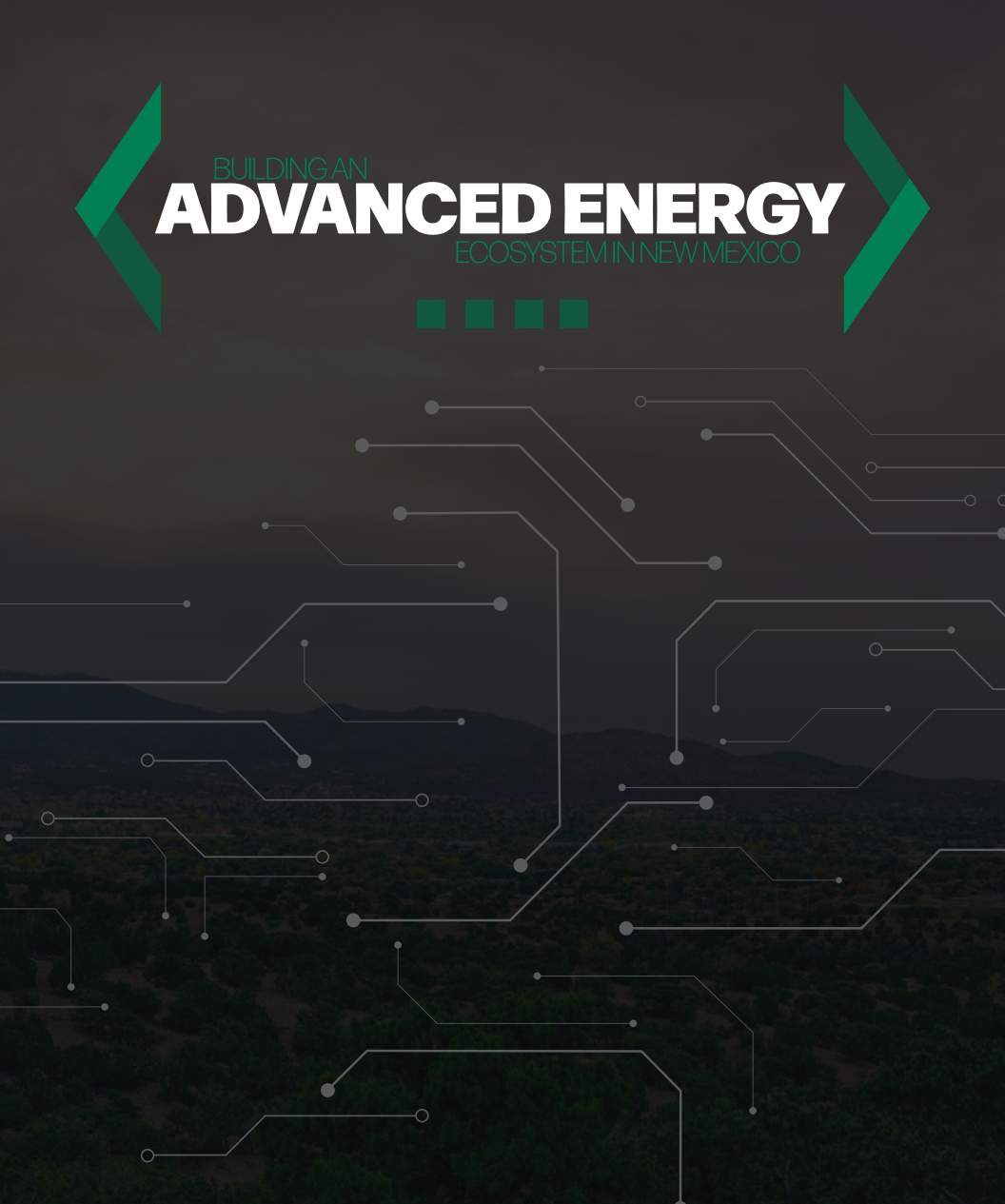


BUILDING AN
ADVANCED ENERGY
ECOSYSTEM IN NEW MEXICO



SEPTEMBER 22-24, 2024

THE CLYDE HOTEL
ALBUQUERQUE, NM



DAY 1 AGENDA

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2024



7:30-9:30am

Networking Breakfast

7:30-8:30am

Networking

Ballroom

8:30-8:45am

Opening Remarks

8:45-9:15am

Keynote Address

Heather O'Neill

Advanced Energy United

9:30-11:30am

Breakout Sessions

9:30-10:20am

Next Steps for Nuclear

Room 1

Climate Technology Start-Ups

Room 2

10:30-11:20am

Grid Resilience

Room 1

Clean Fuels

Room 2

11:30am-1:00pm

Keynote Lunch Presented By Oxy

11:30am-12:15pm

Fireside Chat

Ballroom

Vicki Hollub

Oxy

Meredith Dixon

New Mexico State Representative

12:15-1:00pm

Networking Lunch

1:00-4:30pm

Breakout Sessions

1:00-1:50pm

Carbon Dioxide Removal

Room 1

Water-Energy Nexus

Room 2

2:00-2:50pm

Cybersecurity for the Energy Sector

Room 1

Geothermal

Room 2

3:00-3:50pm

Emerging Technologies

Room 1

The Use Universe of Hydrogen

Room 2

4:30-6:30pm

Evening Reception & Student Poster Competition

Whyte
Room

DAY 2 AGENDA

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2024



7:30-9:30am	Opening Session Presented By NextEra	
7:30-8:30am	Networking Breakfast	Ballroom
8:30-8:45am	Welcome Remarks	
8:45-9:15am	Fireside Chat	
	Marcos Gonzales Harsha	
	DOE Office of Technology Transition	
	Mary Monson	
	Sandia National Laboratories	

9:30-10:30am	Workshops	
	Hydrogen Case Study	Room 1
	Regulatory Roadmap	Room 2
	En-ROADS Climate Solutions Simulator	Room 3

10:30am-12:30pm	Breakout Sessions	
10:30-11:20am	Building Stronger Communities	Room 1
	Energy Storage	Room 2
11:30am-12:20pm	Women in Energy	Room 1
	Methane & Air Quality	Room 2

12:30-2:30pm	Lunch & Closing Session	
	Presented by New Mexico Gas Co.	
12:30-1:10pm	Lunch Keynote	Ballroom
	Stephanie Klein	
	DOE Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs	
1:55pm	Closing Keynote	
	Melanie Kenderdine	
	Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department	

Table of Contents

05	Welcome Letter
09	Keynote Speakers
10	Fireside Chat Speakers
18	Day 1 Breakout Sessions
18	Next Steps for Nuclear
20	Climate Technology Start-Ups
24	Grid Resilience
26	Clean Fuels
28	Carbon Dioxide Removal
30	Water-Energy Nexus
32	Cybersecurity for the Energy Sector
34	Geothermal
36	Emerging Technologies
39	The Use Universe of Hydrogen
40	Day 2 Breakout Sessions
40	Hydrogen Case Study
42	Regulatory Road Map
43	En-ROADS Climate Solutions Simulator
44	Building Stronger Communities
46	Energy Storage
48	Women in Energy
50	Methane & Air Quality



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

D Welcome to the second annual Building an Advanced Energy Ecosystem in New Mexico conference. It is an honor to have you join us for these important discussions that are shaping the future of our state.

When I first embarked on this journey to organize this conference, my goal was clear: to bring together the brightest minds, passionate advocates, and dedicated leaders from across sectors to engage in meaningful conversations about the future of energy in New Mexico. As someone deeply invested in the well-being and prosperity of our state, I believe that the decisions we make today will determine the opportunities available to our children and grandchildren.

New Mexico is uniquely positioned to lead in the energy transition. With our rich natural resources, innovative spirit, and diverse communities, we have the potential to be at the forefront of developing and implementing sustainable energy solutions. However, this potential can only be realized through collaboration—by bringing together voices from across the energy, government, and nonprofit sectors, and ensuring that all stakeholders are heard.

These conversations are more relevant now than ever. As we face the challenges of climate change, economic diversification, and energy equity, it is imperative that we work together to create a future where New Mexico thrives. This conference is a step toward that future—a place where ideas are shared, partnerships are forged, and solutions are born.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the unwavering support of our committee, sponsors, and supporters. The dedication and hard work of our planning committee have been instrumental in bringing this conference to life. Our sponsors have shown their commitment to the advancement of our state by investing in these critical conversations. And to all of you attending, your participation is what makes this conference truly special.

Thank you for being a part of this journey. I look forward to the insights, collaborations, and progress that will emerge from our time together.

Sincerely,

Meredith Dixon

Representative Meredith Dixon
New Mexico House District 20



**Reliable, affordable,
essential energy
for New Mexicans.**

That's why we're here.

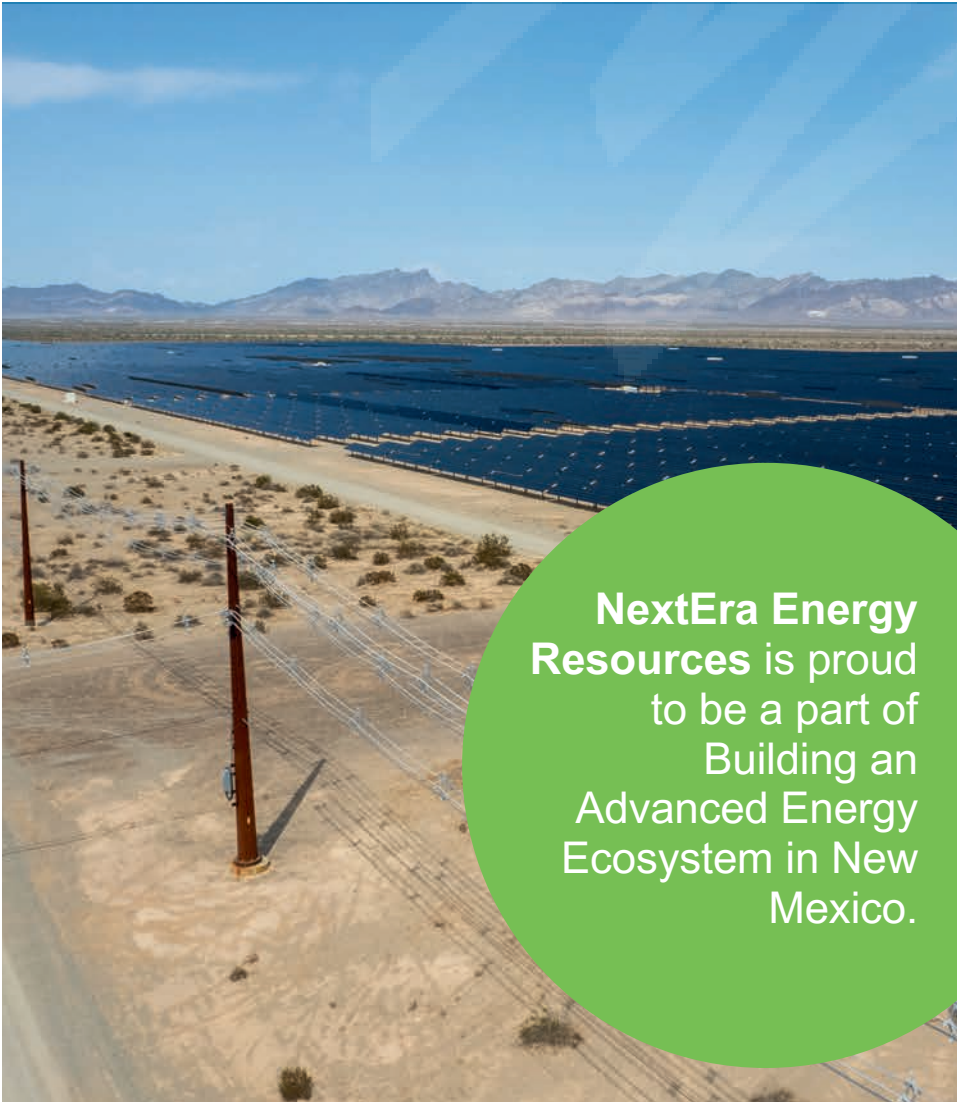
On behalf of our 700-member team (33% of whom are women), we are honored to be a presenting sponsor of New Mexico Women Leads' Building an Advanced Energy Ecosystem conference! As the state's largest natural gas utility provider, we safely deliver reliable, affordable and essential energy to New Mexicans every day. Our team is proud to offer bill assistance and energy efficiency programs to our customers in addition to programs that support our communities and protect our environment. We're your friends and neighbors at New Mexico Gas Company, and we are committed to delivering the energy that provides some of the warmest moments in New Mexican's lives.



New Mexico
GAS COMPANY®
AN EMERA COMPANY

A Natural Choice.

nmgco.com



**NextEra Energy
Resources** is proud
to be a part of
Building an
Advanced Energy
Ecosystem in New
Mexico.



Investing in New Mexico

Local Investment. Jobs. Clean Energy.



TOGETHER WE ARE BETTER

At Oxy, we strive to cultivate an environment where our differences are celebrated and respected. The diverse backgrounds and unique experiences of our employees spark innovation and maximize operational results.

We add value—together—and commit to every employee realizing their full potential.

Learn more at oxy.com



ZERO IN™

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Heather O'Neill

President and CEO, Advanced Energy United

Heather O'Neill is the President and CEO of Advanced Energy United, having previously served as President and Senior Vice President of Strategic Partnerships, where she focused on enhancing relationships with funders and allied organizations to promote industry growth. Throughout her career, Heather has dedicated herself to building mission-driven organizations. Before joining Advanced Energy United, she led the clean energy and environment portfolio at the Robertson Foundation, a \$1 billion family philanthropy. She also served as Director of Public Affairs for Danco Laboratories LLC, a startup focused on women's health. In addition to her role at Advanced Energy United, Heather is a board member of Climate Action Reserve.

Stephanie Klein

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Engagement, Department of Energy

Stephanie Klein serves as the Department of Energy's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Engagement and leads strategic engagement of external stakeholders regarding the Department's work to implement historic climate and clean energy legislation. She is a longtime energy and environmental policy professional, having spent nearly 15 years with the U.S. EPA before joining the Biden-Harris Administration. Immediately before coming to DOE, Stephanie worked as a community climate advocate in Washington, DC. Stephanie is passionate about bringing together diverse voices to ensure that federal government policies are informed by the people they will directly impact.



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Melanie Kenderdine

Secretary-Designate

Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham appointed Melanie A. Kenderdine as Cabinet Secretary of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) in May 2024.

Before joining EMNRD, Kenderdine was co-founder, Principal and Executive Vice President of the Energy Futures Initiative, a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit dedicated to harnessing the power of technology and policy innovation to accelerate the clean energy transition.

Prior to co-founding the Energy Futures Initiative, Kenderdine held high-level positions at the U.S. Department of Energy in both the Obama and Clinton administrations. In the Obama administration, Kenderdine helped create Mission Innovation, now a 26-country initiative that supports transformational clean energy research, development, and demonstration; North American grid integration and security; and the modernization of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. Kenderdine's DOE Office led the management and analysis for the Quadrennial Energy Review, a multi-year, 22-agency roadmap for US energy policy.

During the Clinton administration, she was a primary architect of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve oil exchange of 2000, the creation of the Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve, and the return of the Naval Oil Shale Reserve No. 2 to the Ute tribe in Utah, the largest land transfer back to Native Americans in the lower 48 in over 100 years.

FIRESIDE CHAT SPEAKERS



Meredith Dixon

New Mexico State Representative

Meredith was elected as a New Mexico state representative for House District 20 (Albuquerque) in November 2020. At the beginning of her second term, she was appointed vice-chair of the House Appropriations and Finance Committee (HAFC). In addition to her position on HAFC she serves as a member of the House Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee.

Meredith's primary areas of legislative focus include improving child-wellbeing, enhancing public safety, and diversifying New Mexico's economy. She sponsored legislation creating the New Mexico Opportunity Enterprise Fund, the Venture Capital Investment Fund, the New Mexico Match Fund as well as directed funding to the New Mexico Economic Development Department for clean energy technology and innovation.

In September 2023 she organized the first annual "Building an Advanced Energy Ecosystem in New Mexico" conference and is currently working on the second annual conference which will be held in Albuquerque, September 23-24, 2024.

Meredith received her BA in Global Policy Studies from Chatham College and an MA in International Political Economy from the University of Pittsburgh. She and her husband moved to Albuquerque in 2004. Her husband Kevin is an engineer at Sandia Labs and they have two teenage daughters.

Civitas is committed to achieving carbon neutrality on our acquired Permian Basin assets by the end of 2024.

We are relentlessly focused on driving down the emissions normally associated with oil and gas development and offsetting residual Scope 1 and 2 emissions.



Learn more at
civitasresources.com



Providing energy for the world while staying committed to our values.

ConocoPhillips is proud to be an industry leader in finding and producing the oil and gas the world needs. At the foundation of our work is the commitment we have to our SPIRIT Values — Safety, People, Integrity, Responsibility, Innovation and Teamwork.

To learn more, visit conocophillips.com

FIRESIDE CHAT SPEAKERS



Vicki Hollub

President and CEO, Occidental Petroleum

Vicki Hollub is President and Chief Executive Officer of Oxy. She has been a member of Oxy's Board of Directors since 2015. During her more than 40-year career with Oxy, Vicki has held a variety of management and technical positions with responsibilities on three continents, including roles in the United States, Russia, Venezuela and Ecuador. Most recently, she served as Oxy's President and Chief Operating Officer, overseeing the company's oil and gas, chemical and midstream operations.

Vicki previously was Senior Executive Vice President, Oxy, and President, Oxy Oil and Gas, where she was responsible for operations in the U.S., the Middle East region and Latin America. Prior to that, she held a variety of leadership positions, including Executive Vice President, Oxy, and President, Oxy Oil and Gas, Americas; Vice President, Oxy, and Executive Vice President, U.S. Operations, Oxy Oil and Gas; Executive Vice President, California Operations; and President and General Manager of the company's Permian Basin operations. Vicki started her career at Cities Service, which was acquired by Oxy.

Vicki serves on the boards of Lockheed Martin and the American Petroleum Institute. She is chair of the World Economic Forum's Oil and Gas Community and a member of the Oil and Gas Climate Initiative. A graduate of the University of Alabama, Vicki holds a Bachelor of Science in Mineral Engineering. She was inducted into the University of Alabama College of Engineering 2016 class of Distinguished Engineering Fellows.



FIRESIDE CHAT SPEAKERS



Marcos Gonzales Harsha

DOE Office of Technology Transition

Marcos serves as the Principal Deputy Director at the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) Office of Technology Transitions (DOE). In conjunction with the Director, Marcos works with program offices within DOE as well as with the national labs to identify and increase awareness of partnership opportunities for the private sector to access and leverage DOE's portfolio of pioneering R&D, leading scientists and experts, and world-class facilities.

Prior to joining OTT in November 2017, he served in roles of increasing responsibility in the Office of the Under Secretary for Science and Energy (now Under Secretary for Science), starting in 2013 as a budget advisor and departing as the Deputy Chief of Staff. During his time with the Under Secretary's Office, Marcos led an effort to stand up six interdisciplinary crosscutting teams covering topics ranging from the energy-water nexus to grid modernization with a budget footprint of nearly \$1 billion of DOE's R&D portfolio. In his capacity with the Under Secretary, Marcos also helped to stand up both the Office of Technology Transitions and the Energy Investor Center. Marcos has also served as a voting member of the Project Review Committee tasked with reviewing all new loan guarantees recommended for approval by the DOE Loan Programs Office.

Over the course of his career, Marcos has worked in microfinance in Peru and Bolivia, served as an energy and trade analyst with the Council of the Americas in New York City, and survived a bout of the entrepreneurial bug while living in Lima, Peru for a year. He also spent some time in the mortgage finance industry in 2008.

FIRESIDE CHAT SPEAKERS



Mary Monson

Sr. Manager, Technology Partnerships
and Business Development

Mary Monson has over 25 years of management experience at Sandia National Laboratories in technology partnerships, intellectual property (IP), commercialization, and business development. She is the Senior Manager and Program Director for all technology transfer and business development activities at Sandia. This \$30 million program fosters partnerships with industry, academia, government, and other laboratories and is responsible for deploying Sandia's IP portfolio of 3000+ patents/copyrights. Previously, she was responsible for managing and licensing Sandia's IP portfolio which led to an increase in commercial licensing by 130%. She established the business development capability at Sandia, which is now over 100 staff and supports all Sandia mission portfolios. Mary serves on the executive board of the DOE Technology Transfer Working Group (TTWG) and has served as chair of the National Laboratories Technology Transfer (NLTT) executives. In support of economic development in New Mexico, she also serves on the board of the state's Technology Research Collaborative and the executive board of the New Mexico Biotechnology and Biomedical Association (NMBio). In 2024, she was selected by the New Mexico Tech Council as a Woman in Technology Awardee for her leadership in driving innovation and excellence in tech-related fields and inspiring and empowering others in the tech industry. Prior to joining Sandia, Mary worked for a decade in high tech companies including Unisys Corporation, Texas Instruments, and Digital Equipment Corporation.



 Accelerating the
future energy,
together. 

AES is committed to helping New Mexico achieve a safe and responsible transition to clean energy resources as we invest in improving lives and building stronger communities.

www.aes.com





**REAL
SOLUTIONS.
GOOD
ENERGY.**

xcelenergy.com

 **Xcel Energy®**

© 2024 Xcel Energy Inc.

A LEADER IN THE NET ZERO ENERGY TRANSITION

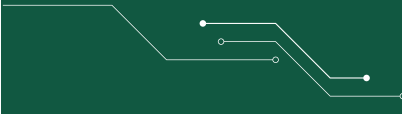
ENGIE has approximately 7 GW of renewables capacity in operation or construction in North America, with a robust pipeline of over 30 GW including 650 MW in New Mexico.




www.engie-na.com


Renewables
NORTH AMERICA

 **THANK YOU**
TO OUR SPONSOR





 **THANK YOU**
TO OUR SPONSOR



TRI-STATE

BY 2025, 50%
OF THE ENERGY
USED BY OUR
MEMBERS WILL
COME FROM
CLEAN ENERGY.

WWW.TRISTATE.COOP



 **COTERRA**

**ENERGIZING
NEW MEXICO**

Dedicated to promoting the safe
and environmentally responsible
development of oil and natural
gas resources in New Mexico.

PRODUCING **ENERGY**.  EMPOWERING **PEOPLE**.

See how we are creating flexible energy solutions for the future.

www.coterra.com

NMOGA

NEW MEXICO OIL AND GAS ASSOCIATION

NMOGA.ORG

DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

NEXT STEPS FOR NUCLEAR 9:30-10:20am | Room 1



Kati Austgen

Senior Project Manager
New Nuclear
Nuclear Energy Institute

Kati Austgen is a Senior Project Manager for New Nuclear at the Nuclear Energy Institute. She specializes in advocacy for all new nuclear technologies, including large light-water reactors, small modular reactors, non-light-water reactors, and micro-reactors. Kati leads the NEI New Reactor Regulatory Working Group which is focused on providing industry coordination and strategic guidance on key generic licensing and regulatory issues for new reactors. Their efforts to resolve regulatory issues and implement recommendations for ensuring a modern and efficient regulatory framework are aimed at ensuring the viability of multiple Advanced Reactor deployments by 2030. Prior to coming to NEI, Kati was a licensing engineer at Ameren Missouri's Callaway Energy Center. Kati holds a Bachelor and Master of Science in Nuclear Engineering from Oregon State University and the University of Missouri, respectively.

Amy Halloran provides leadership and management direction for Sandia's research and development (R&D) programs as Director of the Nuclear Fuel Cycle and Grid Modernization Center at Sandia National Laboratories. Amy leads a team that works in diverse areas of research, from ensuring the electric grid can handle renewable energy sources to enhancing the safety of nuclear energy to advancing the science of nuclear waste management which includes Sandia's role as Science Advisor for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in Carlsbad, NM. She was previously the Senior Manager for Sandia's work in renewable energy and led research programs in wind energy, solar energy, water power, geothermal energy, and the water/energy nexus. Amy has a BS in Chemical Engineering from Virginia Tech and an MS in Environmental Engineering from the University of Illinois. She has been licensed as a Professional Engineer since 1994.



Amy Halloran

Director
Nuclear Fuel Cycle and Grid
Modernization Center
Sandia National Laboratories



DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSIONS



NEXT STEPS FOR NUCLEAR 9:30-10:20am | Room 1



Marisa Monreal

Research Scientist in the
Chemistry Division
Los Alamos National
Laboratory

Marisa Monreal is research scientist in the Chemistry Division at Los Alamos National Laboratory. With a foundation in uranium and thorium organometallic chemistry, her research interests have expanded to actinide-molten salts, and she has established a robust and growing research capability to investigate these extreme systems. She is a Lead of the new Plutonium Science Laboratory (PluS Lab) at LANL, which will steward fundamental plutonium science to address nonproliferation challenges. Marisa directs multiple research projects impacting nuclear security, nuclear energy, fundamental actinide science, and global security, with applications to molten salt reactors, uranium/plutonium metal recovery and purification, and a growing number of new energy-related technologies.



INNOVATING THE ENERGY INDUSTRY

An Aluminum-CO₂ Battery
Alternative to Lithium-ion
supported by a robust
domestic supply chain.

High-Performance

Non-Flammable

Low-Cost

Energy-Dense

Look for the Flow Aluminum logo
to visit our table and learn more
about how we are revolutionizing
the energy landscape.

FLOW ALUMINUM
FLOWALUMINUM.COM



DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

CLIMATE TECHNOLOGY START-UPS 9:30-10:20am | Room 2



Doug Campbell

Solid Power

Doug Campbell is a seasoned entrepreneur with a track record of guiding startups from inception to exit, including Solid Power (NASDAQ: SLDP), which develops next-generation rechargeable batteries for the EV market, and Roccor (now Redwire Space; NYSE: RDW), a supplier for low-earth-orbit satellites. He has received accolades such as Most Admired CEO by the Denver Business Journal, Cleantech Innovator of the Year by the Colorado Cleantech Industry Association, and Distinguished Alumni from the University of New Mexico's School of Engineering (M.S., '02; B.S., '01). Currently, Doug is an active investor in the startup ecosystems of Colorado and New Mexico and serves on multiple boards, including the University of New Mexico Foundation and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory Foundation.

Carrie Freeman is the Chair of SecondMuse Group and the Interim Executive Director of the SecondMuse Foundation, a non-profit dedicated to advocating for Relational Wealth to build inclusive and resilient economies. She joined SecondMuse in 2012, initially as managing partner, and later as Co-CEO. Under her leadership, SecondMuse, a B Corp certified company, has launched programs across seven continents, partnering with over 600 organizations, including NASA, The World Bank, and Goldman Sachs. Carrie has led SecondMuse to win multiple awards, such as the Reuters Responsible Business Award. Before her time at SecondMuse, she spent 15 years at Intel, where she pioneered sustainability initiatives and created the first Corporate Sustainability Group. Carrie is passionate about nurturing human potential and enjoys outdoor activities with her 10-year-old son.



Carrie Freeman

Chair
SecondMuse Group

DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

CLIMATE TECHNOLOGY START-UPS 9:30-10:20am | Room 2



Ward Hendon

Co-Founder and General
Partner
Dangerous Ventures

Ward is a co-founder and general partner at Dangerous Ventures, a seed-stage venture capital firm with offices in Santa Fe, San Francisco, and Los Angeles, focusing on building a resilient future for people and the planet. Before Dangerous Ventures, Ward was a founding team member of Axiom Law, the world's largest provider of tech-enabled legal services, recognized for its innovation in the legal industry. Axiom was sold to Permira, a global private equity firm, in 2019. Ward serves on the board of New Mexico's Climate Investment Center and teaches Entrepreneurship and Impact Investing at UCLA Anderson. He is a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill and UNC-Chapel Hill Law School, and he previously practiced law at King & Spalding LLP.

David Perez is an accomplished entrepreneur with a successful track record of starting and building B2C and B2B technology companies in the fields of healthcare technology, data analytics, and digital marketing. As the founder of the Advanced Energy Alliance he is actively working on economic development for New Mexico in climate technology and energy transition. David is the chair of the New Mexico Angels investment group and vice chair of the City of Santa Fe economic development advisory committee.



David Perez

Founder and CEO
Advanced Energy Alliance



forging new paths to a lower carbon future

At Chevron, we're striving to lead the way in the energy transition by advancing a lower carbon future. All so we can deliver the energy we need today while forging new paths to the future—in ways that are affordable, reliable and ever-cleaner. That's energy in progress.

Learn more at [Chevron.com/EnergyInProgress](https://www.chevron.com/EnergyInProgress)

Chevron proudly supports Building an Advanced Energy Ecosystem in New Mexico.

CHEVRON, the CHEVRON hallmark and THE HUMAN ENERGY COMPANY are registered trademarks of Chevron Intellectual Property L.L.C. © 2020 Chevron U.S.A. Inc.



Proud Sponsor of the Building an Advanced Energy Ecosystem for New Mexico Conference

The future requires a more robust, resilient grid, which is why we invest in the transmission lines essential to connect generation capacity and move power.

Visit newmexiconorthpath.com to learn more.

Invenergy

THANK YOU
TO OUR SPONSOR



Powering New Mexico for over 100 years

Powering Real Progress

PNM is more than just an energy provider - we are a part of the local community. We're committed to doing everything we can to reduce emissions and preserve our remarkable New Mexico environment. Here are just a few of the steps we've taken together in recent years.

Clean Energy Sources

Combining solar, wind and geothermal generation, we produce enough clean energy to power more than 174,000 New Mexico homes every day.

18 (and counting) **solar centers** produce enough energy to **power 60,000 homes** when the sun is shining.



\$270 million investment in **1 million solar panels** (and counting) helped land **New Mexico in the top 10** states for solar installations.

Wind power supports the energy needs of an additional **73,000 homes**.



Our **wind, solar and geothermal power generation** save **400 million gallons of water** every year. The total reduced air emissions is equivalent to taking **201,000 cars** off New Mexico's roads.

100%

**CARBON FREE
BY 2040**



Advanced Energy **Thrives** in New Mexico

Strategic location with 3 interstate highways, a vast railway system, international airports, and access to nearby markets

Extensive R&D resources with statewide clean energy initiatives, investments, and support

Experienced STEM workforce and talent pipeline from world-class universities

Attractive incentives for job creation and investment to qualified businesses of all sizes

N.M. welcomes you to join this growing list of innovative businesses:

- Arcosa Wind Towers
- Array Technologies
- BayoTech
- Calgon Carbon
- Wind Turbine Energy Company (WTEC)
- Ebon Solar
- Maxeon Solar
- Pajarito Powder
- Star Scientific

Contact us today and discover why more companies are choosing New Mexico

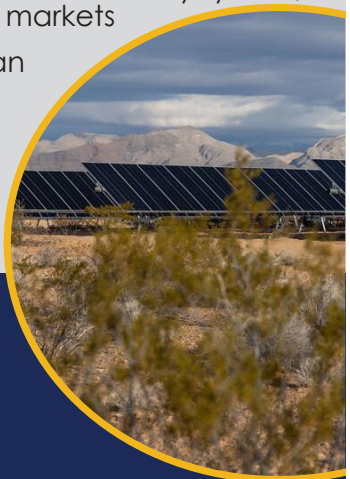
edd.newmexico.gov | mpartnership.com

Partners in Economic Development



EDD
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT

NEW MEXICO
partnership



DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

GRID RESILIENCE 10:30-11:20am | Room 1



Charles Hanley

Senior Manager of the Electric
Grid Security Group
Sandia National Laboratories

Mr. Hanley is Senior Manager of the Grid Modernization and Energy Storage Group at Sandia National Laboratories. His group conducts research on enhancing the resilience of our critical energy infrastructures, including grid-scale optimization, controls, and microgrids; energy storage technologies; renewable energy integration; power electronics; cyber security; and advanced analytics for complex systems. He joined Sandia in 1988 and has been working in Sandia's renewable energy and electric grid programs since 1994. From 2005 through 2014, Charlie managed Sandia's Photovoltaics and Distributed Systems Integration Program. Prior to that, he managed Sandia's international renewable energy programs, through which he oversaw the implementation of more than 400 photovoltaic and wind energy systems in Latin America. He received his B.S. in Engineering Science from Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, and his M.S. in Electrical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, in Troy, New York.

On July 1, 2024, Lynn E. Mostoller became the new Executive Director of the New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority (RETA). She has served as RETA's general counsel since 2016. She is currently a shareholder with the Albuquerque law firm, Sutin Thayer & Browne. In addition to her work with RETA, she has practiced primarily in the areas of commercial litigation, regulatory and administrative law, renewable energy project development, employment law, and appeals. Her experience with commercial clients and public agencies includes regulatory matters such as rulemaking, compliance filings, enforcement proceedings, and administrative litigation and appeals involving various boards, commissions and agencies.

Ms. Mostoller graduated from the University of New Mexico School of Law in 2004, summa cum laude.

She holds a Master of Music degree from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and a Bachelor of Music degree from the Eastman School of Music. She is the second trombonist of the Santa Fe Symphony.



Lynn Mostoller

Executive Director
New Mexico Renewable
Energy Authority (RETA)

DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

GRID RESILIENCE DAY 1 | 10:30-11:20am | Room 1



Zach Pollock

Director
Grid Strategy & Emerging
Technologies
Xcel Energy

Zach Pollock is Director of Grid Strategy & Emerging Technologies within Xcel Energy's Integrated System Planning group. He is responsible for developing strategy for planning and integration of emerging technologies to help enable the grid of the future. Prior to this role, he led many of the Company's regulatory initiatives related to integrated system planning for the electric distribution system and gas LDC system, DER integration, renewable energy planning, and other related policy issues. Prior to joining Xcel Energy, Mr. Pollock spent more than a decade in various energy consulting, product, and research roles advising utilities, regulators, technology vendors, and investment firms on topics including integrated distribution system planning, interconnection and integration of DERs, non-wires and non-pipes alternatives, and emerging energy technologies. He has authored several industry-leading reports as a former industry analyst and has been quoted in numerous publications. Mr. Pollock holds a Master's of Science degree in Sustainability Management from Columbia University with a focus on energy policy, and a Bachelor's of Science in Natural Resources from Cornell University.

Rikki Seguin is the Executive Director of the Interwest Energy Alliance, a trade association representing utility-scale renewable energy companies, including wind, solar, storage, and transmission. Since joining in April 2019, Rikki has managed the organization's six-state strategic agenda and a team of policy and technical experts, while building political power for the renewable energy industry. With extensive experience as a coalition-builder, Rikki fosters consensus across the diverse membership of Interwest. Before this role, Rikki developed and implemented a regional policy agenda for renewable energy in the Pacific Northwest and worked as a community organizer in New Mexico, California, Texas, and Oregon. Rikki has been instrumental in passing various renewable energy policies and holds degrees in Physics and Astronomy from the University of Florida. Rikki is based in Albuquerque, NM.



Rikki Seguin

Executive Director
Interwest Energy Alliance

DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

CLEAN FUELS 10:30-11:20am | Room 2



**Lisa
Coachbuilder**

HF Sinclair

Lisa Coachbuilder joined HF Sinclair in 2021, prior to the start of their renewable diesel operations, to manage compliance with various state, federal and international carbon regulations. Lisa began working with Clean Fuels Programs in 2011, with the implementation of California's LCFS. At Murex, an ethanol marketing company, Lisa worked with partnering ethanol producers to meet regulatory requirements in various markets. As the Carbon Manager, Lisa worked with ethanol plants to comply with programs in California, Europe, British Columbia and Alberta. Since joining HF Sinclair, Lisa has developed pathways for the renewable diesel to California, Oregon, Washington, British Columbia and Canada, as well as the EPA's RFS program. She has a BS in marketing from Miami University, an MBA from Southern Methodist University, and is in the process of getting an MLS in Energy and Environmental Law from Texas A&M University.

Dr. Taraka Dale is the Microbial and Biome Sciences Group Leader and a Principal Investigator in the Bioscience Division at Los Alamos National Laboratory. Dr. Dale has >20 years of experience in the design and development of mid- to high throughput assays for biochemical research, including applications that utilize algae and other non-model microorganisms for biomanufacturing, bioenergy, and carbon capture. In 2023, Dr. Dale was honored by Biofuels Digest as one of the "500 most innovative, transformative leaders in the advanced bioeconomy" and received the R.A. Glenn Award for the "most innovative and interesting paper" presented at the American Chemical Society Energy and Fuels Division Symposium.



Taraka Dale

Group Leader, Microbial and
Biome Sciences (B-IOME)
Los Alamos National
Laboratory

DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

CLEAN FUELS 10:30-11:20am | Room 2



Sydney Lienemann

Deputy Cabinet Secretary
Administration
New Mexico Environment
Department

Dr. Sydney Lienemann is the Deputy Cabinet Secretary for Administration at the New Mexico Environment Department where she leads teams overseeing regulatory programs which include air and water quality programs, solid and hazardous waste programs, OSHA, climate change, and protecting the environment for the next generation of New Mexicans. Lienemann began her career as an AmeriCorps VISTA member to support investments in climate infrastructure and clean energy in rural Alaska. Sydney earned her Ph.D. in physics at University of Colorado Boulder and National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) studying metal nanoparticles for next generation clean energy technologies. She spent the last decade working at the intersection of climate, energy, and environmental policy. She was the MRS/OSA Science and Technology Congressional fellow and legislative assistant for climate and clean energy for U.S. Senator Mark Begich (AK), then led the Arctic energy diplomacy program at the U.S. Department of State. She served as Chief of Staff to Alaska State Senate Minority Leader Tom Begich and Climate Advisor to the City of Albuquerque. Most recently, Sydney was the Head of Programs at Camus Energy, a clean tech start-up working to help utilities use more clean energy. In her free time, she loves to hike, bike, ski, and camp across New Mexico with her family.

Robin Vercruse is Executive Director of the Low Carbon Fuels Coalition. She has spent more than a dozen years building consensus and broad support for policies to decarbonize transportation fuels and diversify the sources used to produce them. Robin has a Master of Environmental Science and Management from the Bren School of UC Santa Barbara, specializing in energy and climate change.



Robin Vercruse

Executive Director
Low Carbon Fuels Coalition



DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

CARBON DIOXIDE REMOVAL 1:00-1:50am | Room 1



Jessica Gregg

Tall Grass

Jessica Rinehart Gregg is a seasoned professional in the energy sector, specializing in geoscience compliance and environmental regulatory affairs. She holds a BS in Geological Sciences from San Diego State University (2002-2006). Jessica's career spans several prominent companies in the energy industry. She currently serves as the Director of Geoscience Compliance at Tallgrass, an energy infrastructure company. Prior to this, she spent three years at Carbon America, a carbon capture and sequestration firm, where she rose to the position of Director of Environmental and Regulatory Compliance. Jessica also has eight years of experience with Ovintiv (formerly Encana), a leading North American energy producer, where she worked as a Senior Regulatory Analyst. Her early career included roles at Kleinfelder and Buys & Associates, both environmental consulting firms serving the oil and gas industry. Throughout her career, Jessica has developed expertise in regulatory project management, environmental consulting, and health and safety management, consistently driving compliance and sustainable practices in the energy sector.

Michael leads Government Affairs & Public Policy at Modern Hydrogen, leveraging nearly three decades of experience in the energy industry, public service, and clean technology sectors. His career spans investor-owned and consumer-owned utilities, policy advisory roles to governors, and key positions at clean tech startups like Utilidata, Varentec, and Silver Spring Networks. He most recently served as the founding Executive Director of the ICF Climate Center and was VP for Government Affairs at the Pacific Northwest Generating Cooperative.

A U.S. Fulbright Fellow and graduate of Phillips Exeter, Yale, and Harvard Kennedy School, Michael has a diverse background that includes martial arts, competitive ballroom dancing, and environmental policy. He resides in Portland, Oregon, with his family.



Michael Jung

Government Affairs &
Public Policy
Modern Hydrogen

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

CARBON DIOXIDE REMOVAL 1:00-1:50pm | Room 1



Jennifer Raney

Deputy Director
Petroleum Recovery
Research
New Mexico Institute of
Mining and Technology

Jennifer Raney is the Deputy Director of the Petroleum Recovery Research Center (PRRC) at New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology in Socorro, New Mexico. Currently, Jennifer leads the outreach working group for the Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage Partnership (CUSP) while actively contributing her skills to numerous DOE-funded projects on CCUS commercialization, energy storage, produced water treatment, and sustainable critical minerals exploration. She is focused on applying her skills toward environmental justice, workforce development, DEIB, and community engagement particularly with Tribal Nations in the field of energy research and carbon management. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science from Tulane University and a Master's degree in Environmental Science and Engineering from the University of Kansas.

Patricia Sullivan currently serves as associate dean in the College of Engineering at New Mexico State University with a joint appointment as Director for Workforce and Strategic Engagement in the Office of the Vice President of Research, Creativity, and Economic Development. Dr. Sullivan received her PhD in industrial engineering, and a master's degree in economics from New Mexico State University. She is a recognized leader in STEM-based workforce development and outreach programming. She serves as lead for a National Science Foundation grant to advance engineering student career-readiness through augmented self-directed micro-credential learning, and is lead on technical assistance programming through several federal agency grants to foster energy efficiency and pollution prevention for small and medium businesses across New Mexico and El Paso, Texas. As lead for the newly established EPA funded Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center (TCTAC) for region 6 and a DOE funded Building Technical Assistance Center (BTAC) for New Mexico, Dr. Sullivan is working with an experienced team of partners to advance clean energy in New Mexico.



Patricia Sullivan

Associate Dean, Outreach
and Recruitment
New Mexico State
University

DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

WATER-ENERGY NEXUS DAY 1 | 1:00-1:50pm | Room 2



Ashley Kegley-Whitehead

Chief Communications
Officer
Infinity Government
Solutions

Ashley Kegley-Whitehead is a strategic problem-solver, creative storyteller, and radical collaborator focused on community impact. Her expertise in design, culture, communication, and organizational strategy drives her passion for transforming how companies engage with customers, employees, and communities. Ashley has secured over \$2.6 billion for Central Texas through integrated marketing campaigns for local bond elections and has introduced innovative technologies like ridesharing and water recycling. As a former co-founder and creative director of an award-winning agency, she has over 10 years of management experience and emphasizes placemaking and social causes. Ashley serves on the boards of the Downtown Austin Alliance and Open Door Preschool, is a past president of Hill Country Conservancy, and is involved with several leadership programs and organizations. She lives in East Austin with her husband and two daughters.

Sydney Lienemann

Deputy Cabinet Secretary Administration
New Mexico Environment Department
See bio on Page 27

Fernando Martinez is the Deputy Director of the New Mexico Finance Authority, where he assists the CEO, works with policy makers and external partners, and strengthens communities across New Mexico by helping to provide financing for infrastructure, capital equipment, and economic development projects. Prior to this role he served as the Executive Director of the New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority; as Manager of the Mining Act Reclamation Program; as Chief of the Drinking Water Bureau; as Director of the Energy Conservation and Management Division; and as Director of the Mining and Minerals Division. Fernando is a graduate of the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology.



Fernando Martinez

Deputy Director
NM Finance Authority



DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSIONS



WATER-ENERGY NEXUS 1:00-1:50pm | Room 2



Cristina Mulcahy

Of Counsel
Holland and Hart

Cris is an experienced attorney who has represented energy companies, municipalities, and private parties in water rights and water-related environmental matters before local, state, and federal authorities. She specializes in navigating regulatory, permitting, and administrative challenges related to water rights, water quality, and hazardous waste. Cris advises clients across various industries on compliance with federal environmental regulations, including the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and the Clean Water Act (CWA). She also assists with projects involving tribal lands, ensuring compliance with tribal consultation requirements and the National Historic Preservation Act. Previously, Cris served as Environment, Safety, and Health Counsel for Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), where she managed litigation, compliance, and permitting for key environmental issues.

In October 2023, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham appointed Rebecca Roose to serve as New Mexico's Infrastructure Advisor. In this role, Rebecca provides strategic leadership for federal and state infrastructure programs to support resilient communities across New Mexico. In her former role as Deputy Cabinet Secretary for the New Mexico Environment Department, Rebecca oversaw New Mexico environmental and public health initiatives across all NMED programs and served as the agency's executive lead on infrastructure, tribal relations, and water policy. In 2022, Rebecca was one of four Executive Committee members providing leadership for the New Mexico Water Policy and Infrastructure Task Force. Rebecca also served the state as NMED's Water Protection Division Director for two years. Prior to joining state government in 2019, Rebecca led national environmental programs at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C. over her 13-year federal career. Rebecca received her law degree from the University of New Mexico School of Law and her undergraduate degree in Geography from Valparaiso University.



Rebecca Roose

Infrastructure Advisor
Office of the Governor

DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

CYBERSECURITY FOR THE ENERGY SECTOR 2:00-2:50pm | Room 1



Nigel Lawrence

Solutions Architect
Los Alamos National
Laboratories

Nigel Lawrence is a cybersecurity researcher at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) whose work centers on securing critical infrastructure systems and networks. His prior work has focused on developing better anomaly detection for electrical Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) systems, and he currently leads efforts focused on resilient networking for Distributed Energy Resources (DER), hardware anti-tamper, and formal methods for industrial systems. Nigel holds a master's degree in computer science from Georgia Tech, and prior to joining LANL he spent over a decade serving as a systems administrator, network engineer, software engineer, and cybersecurity researcher.

Sheila Mendez is the Vice President and Chief Information Officer for TXNM Energy, Inc., overseeing all technology-related operations for TXNM, PNM, and TNMP. With over 33 years in technology and 25 years in the utility industry, she manages applications, infrastructure, telecommunications, security, compliance, and crisis resilience. Sheila earned her Executive MBA and B.B.A. in Business Computer Systems from UNM and holds several professional certifications. She has served on the EPRI AI Executive Committee and is a sought-after speaker on topics like program management, cybersecurity, and AI impacts on the utility industry.



Sheila Mendez

VP and
Chief Information Officer
PNM



DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

CYBERSECURITY FOR THE ENERGY SECTOR 2:00-2:50pm | Room 1



Daniel Trujillo

Chief Information Security Officer
Kit Carson Electric

Daniel Trujillo is the Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) at Kit Carson Electric Cooperative, bringing over 14 years of experience in the utility sector to his role. Daniel is known for his ability to develop and implement robust security frameworks that protect critical infrastructure from evolving cyber threats. He excels in managing incident response, ensuring rapid recovery and minimal impact from security breaches. His knowledge in securing both Information Technology (IT) and Operational Technology (OT) environments has made him a pivotal figure in integrating comprehensive security measures across the cooperative. His dedication to cybersecurity extends to fostering a culture of awareness and preparedness among the cooperative's staff, members, and community. Daniel's strategic initiatives have significantly enhanced the security posture of the rural utility, which provides essential services to its members.

Dr. Jun Zheng earned his Ph.D. in Computer Engineering from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in 2005. He began his academic career as an assistant professor at Queens College, City University of New York, and is now a professor at New Mexico Tech, leading the Human-Centered Computing and Security Lab. A cybersecurity and applied machine learning expert, Dr. Zheng has authored over 130 peer-reviewed papers and led research funded by the NSF, DOE, DOD, and DHS. He plays a key role in securing next-gen power grids through the NSF-supported New Mexico Smart Grid Center. Dr. Zheng has also held leadership roles in over 130 international conferences and workshops and is an active IEEE and ACM member.



Jun Zheng

Professor
New Mexico Tech

DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

GEOTHERMAL 2:00-2:50pm | Room 2



Giorgia Bettin

Sandia National
Laboratories

Giorgia Bettin holds a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley, and a Ph.D. in the same field from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). She began her career at Schlumberger-Doll Research, where she worked on innovative projects related to wellbore cementing and completions. In 2012, Giorgia joined Sandia National Laboratories, focusing on detecting and remediating wellbore integrity issues in the Oil & Gas and geologic storage programs. For the past six years, she has managed Sandia's geothermal research program, which aims to innovate drilling technologies and develop specialized high-temperature downhole tools for geothermal applications.

Lucy is the Chief Commercial Officer at XGS Energy, a geothermal energy company pioneering a water-independent heat harvesting system for terawatt-scale deployment of 24/7 clean geothermal energy. XGS is supported by prominent global energy developers, operators, consumers, and financial investors. Before joining XGS, Lucy was a Principal at Boston Consulting Group (BCG), where she led clean energy studies and investment strategies within the Energy, Climate & Sustainability, and Public Sector practices. Lucy holds a Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of California, Berkeley, and has authored over 25 technical papers in materials science for energy and computing applications.



Lucy Darago

Chief Commercial Officer
XGS Ebergoy

DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

GEO THERMAL 2:00-2:50pm | Room 2



Amy Miller

President
AMM Consulting

Amy Miller, president of AMM Consulting, is a dynamic senior public affairs professional known for her expertise in developing and implementing strategies to build relationships and communicate key messages. After years in the energy industry, Amy founded her consulting firm in 2018, focusing on clean energy and transportation advocacy. She has successfully influenced key renewable energy, electric vehicle, alternative fuels, energy efficiency, and regulatory reform legislation in New Mexico from 2019 to 2024. Her work includes creating an energy efficiency program for Albuquerque's small businesses and co-developing a Climate Action Plan for Los Alamos County. Amy has also worked on alternative fuel vehicle policies, a proposed transmission line in northern New Mexico, and ongoing communications for solar developers. In 2022, she was awarded the Champion of Protecting Public Health and the Environment by the State of New Mexico.

Johanna Ostrum is Chief Operating Officer at Gradient Geothermal, a geothermal technology and development company focused on co-produced energy from oil and gas wells and infrastructure. Johanna helped build the company from the ground up and has been instrumental in developing the technology, winning grants, executing a pilot project in Nevada, and building a new market for small, modular geothermal energy.

Johanna has nearly two decades of experience within the energy industry in a wide variety of engineering, regulatory, policy, and management positions. With a B.S. in Geological Engineering from Montana Tech, Johanna has brought an intradisciplinary and collaborative approach to every position she has held. With various roles at Noble Energy, SM Energy, Extraction Oil & Gas, and Clean Air Task Force, Johanna has contributed to every part of the energy development value chain.

Johanna currently volunteers her time as the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force Chair at Geothermal Rising as well as sitting on the Board of Directors of the Energy Leadership Institute.



Johanna Ostrum

CEO
Gradient Geothermal

DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

GEOTHERMAL 2:00-2:50pm | Room 2



Caity Smith

Head of Stakeholder
Engagement
Zanskar

With over 17 years of experience in geothermal project and program management, Caity Smith is a results-oriented strategist skilled in steering complex projects from planning to execution. Known for her effective communication and leadership, she has developed valuable partnerships nationally and internationally, significantly advancing geothermal technologies worldwide. In 2022, Caity joined Zanskar Geothermal & Minerals, Inc. as Head of Stakeholder Engagement, where she collaborates with government entities and legislators to influence policy at both state and federal levels. She also serves on the Geothermal Rising Policy Committee as Chair of the Permitting sub-committee and is a member of the Board of Directors for the US chapter of Women in Geothermal (WING).

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES 3:00-3:50pm | Room 1

Ms. Culhane is a Project/Program Director for Los Alamos National Laboratory, where she is the Quantum Science Coordinator, working to strengthen and grow the LANL workforce in quantum information sciences through education and training and the enhancement of inter-laboratory, industrial and academic partnerships. Prior to joining LANL, Ms. Culhane was with the Department of Defense, where she was a program manager on multiple projects to stimulate the creation of commercial supercomputers. She was elevated to the Senior Executive Service in 2008 and her last position before retirement was Deputy for Future Computing at the Laboratory for Physical Sciences. She is a Senior Advisor to the Council on Competitiveness, a member of the steering committee for the ACM/IEEE SC conference series, Treasurer for IEEE Quantum TC, co-founder of the IEEE Conference on Quantum Computing and Engineering, and is the General Chair for the 2024 International Conference for Quantum Computing and Engineering.



Candace Culhane

Quantum Science
Coordinator
Los Alamos National
Laboratory



DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES 3:00-3:50pm | Room 1



**Hunter
McDaniel**

Founder and CEO
UbiQD

Hunter McDaniel is the Founder and CEO of UbiQD, a ten-year-old advanced materials company spun out of Los Alamos National Laboratory, based in Los Alamos. Hunter earned a Ph.D. in Materials Science and Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, before joining Los Alamos National Laboratory in the Chemistry Division. Since founding UbiQD, Inc. in 2014, the company has raised more than \$20M and employs 35 full time employees. The company manufactures a line of greenhouse products, called 'UbiGro', that uses fluorescence to help plants get more from the sun in a greenhouse, and the company has partnered with the largest solar module manufacturer to deploy light optimization in photovoltaics.

Working at the intersection of academia and economic development, Dr. Kristin Morehead has led interdisciplinary initiatives at New Mexico State University's Arrowhead Center, managing business accelerators, technical assistance programs, and nation-wide mentoring network that have collectively contributed entrepreneurial growth across New Mexico and the Borderplex region.



**Kristin
Morehead**

Economic Development
Officer
NMSU Arrowhead Center

DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES 3:00-3:50pm | Room 1



Matthew Reno

Principal Member of
Technical Staff
Electric Power Systems
Research Department
Sandia National
Laboratories

Matthew Reno is a Distinguished Member of Technical Staff in the Electric Power Systems Research Department at Sandia National Laboratories. His research is at the intersection of electric grid data and artificial intelligence to improve the efficiency and resilience of critical energy infrastructures. This includes novel methods for integrating and controlling renewable energy for a cleaner grid. Matthew is also involved with the IEEE Power System Relaying Committee for developing guides and standards for protection and applications of artificial intelligence.

THE USE UNIVERSE OF HYDROGEN 3:00-3:50pm | Room 2

Dr. Donatella Pasqualini is a Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) senior scientist and manager. She is leading the National Infrastructure Simulation Agency program at LANL, which supports local, regional, and federal decision-makers in understanding the complexity and vulnerability of our infrastructure. Dr. Pasqualini investigates how climatic changes and extreme weather impact the vulnerability of critical infrastructures, specifically the energy sector, and how these integrated sectors may adapt. Among several projects related to energy and climate, Dr. Pasqualini supported the California Energy Commission understanding of how the insertion of renewable energy may benefit California communities and aided federal sponsors to comprehend the effects of fossil fuel development on local and national environment and society. Recently, in collaboration with other LANL scientists, she has been studying the implications of H₂ on the transportation sector.



Donatella Pasqualini

Deputy Group Leader
of Energy & Natural
Resources
Los Alamos National
Laboratory

DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

THE USE UNIVERSE OF HYDROGEN 3:00-3:50pm | Room 2



Jeremy Sment

Principal Engineer
Sandia National
Laboratories

Jeremy Sment, is a manager, researcher, and Principal Engineer at the Concentrating Solar Technologies organization at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque. In his role at the National Solar Thermal Test Facility, Jeremy leads a team of subject matter experts focused on renewable power production using solar towers, long duration thermal energy storage, and solar fuels including hydrogen and ammonia. Jeremy focuses on market adoption of solar thermal applications for industrial heat and wastewater treatment. He has had the opportunity to travel and collaborate with experts around the world who are developing jet fuel and hydrogen from ambient water vapor and CO₂ using solar tower technology. He also specializes in system integration, commercialization, and economics and leads a task team with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory focused on analyzing barriers to commercial scale solar

Carolyn Tobias, originally from Australia, has over 25 years of experience as a public relations and marketing consultant in the United States. A resident of Albuquerque, New Mexico, since 2011, she joined the Bernalillo County Economic Development team in 2021 to help execute federal Covid-19 relief funding through small business grant programs. In June 2022, she expanded her role as Manager of the department. Carolyn is dedicated to increasing job opportunities and improving quality of life for county residents through affordable housing development and business expansion efforts. In October 2023, Bernalillo County, in partnership with several organizations, received a designation from the USDOT for the I-40 TradePort Corridor as a Regional Infrastructure Accelerator, establishing a significant clean energy logistics system. Carolyn is a lifelong art enthusiast and has been a small business owner since 2001, alongside her husband, Matthew.



Carolyn Tobias

Economic Development
Manager
Bernalillo County



DAY 2 BREAKOUT SESSIONS



HYDROGEN CASE STUDY 9:30-10:20am | Room 1



**Rikki-Lee
Chavez**

Founder
Capitol Counsel and
Consulting

Rikki-Lee was born and raised in northern New Mexico. After attending the University of New Mexico and the University of New Mexico School of Law, Rikki-Lee became a member of the New Mexico State Bar in 2014, and shortly thereafter opened a legal practice in Tierra Amarilla, New Mexico. The practice focused on criminal defense and legislative advocacy. In 2016, Rikki-Lee joined the law firm of Gallagher & Kennedy, P.A., where she had the opportunity to appear on behalf of corporate clients in regulatory settings as well as before the New Mexico Legislature. In 2019, Rikki-Lee founded Capitol Counsel & Consulting, LLC in Santa Fe. Rikki-Lee - together with Partner, Randi Valverde - continues to grow CCC and provides unmatched political advocacy on behalf of a diverse book of clients in water, energy, and other sectors.

I currently serve as the Mayor of the Village of Questa, NM. I have held this position since April 1st, 2022, and will continue to do so until at least December 31, 2027. Prior to becoming Mayor, I was a Village Councilman from March 4, 2016, to April 1, 2022. I am a Climate Mayor and member of the Climate Mayors organization. I am a board member for NALEO (National Association of Latino Elected Officials). Before entering into public office, I worked as a paid EMT and Firefighter for the Village of Questa and continued as a volunteer until my election as Mayor. The Village of Questa is a small municipality in Northern New Mexico with 1700 residents. I am currently employed in the utility and energy industry for Kit Carson Electric Cooperative, which supplies all the electricity to the Village of Questa.

Since 2012, the Village of Questa has been powered by 100 percent solar energy during the daytime. Additionally, I serve as an Adjunct Fire Instructor for the New Mexico State Fire Academy and run my own business as a CPR and First Aid Instructor.



John Ortega

Mayor
Village of Questa



DAY 2 BREAKOUT SESSIONS



HYDROGEN CASE STUDY 9:30-10:20am | Room 1



Luis Reyes

CEO

Kit Carson Electric Coop

Luis A. Reyes Jr. graduated from Taos High School. He earned an Associate of Arts in General Studies from the New Mexico Military Institute in 1980 and a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from New Mexico State University in 1984. He joined Kit Carson Electric Cooperative, Inc. (KCEC) in 1984 as a System Engineer and became the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager in 1994.

Luis has provided vision and leadership to build a Cooperative that offers a variety of services, including renewable energy, broadband internet, and low-cost propane. KCEC operates as a 100% daytime solar cooperative with 42 MW of distributed solar resources and approximately 16.25 MW of battery storage in its service area. KCEC plans to add solar and storage facilities to make the co-op 100% renewable, utilizing local resources. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) selected KCEC to receive \$23 million to enhance the U.S. power grid's ability to deliver affordable, clean energy to American communities across northern New Mexico.



- ✓ **Serving America's Nuclear Power Generators**
- ✓ **Advancing Energy Security**
- ✓ **Supporting Future Fuels for the Nuclear Industry**

As the only large-scale commercial uranium enrichment facility in North America, Urenco USA (UUSA) helps provide clean, sustainable energy while working under a framework of high environmental, social responsibility, and corporate governance standards.





DAY 2 BREAKOUT SESSIONS



REGULATORY ROADMAP 9:30-10:20am | Room 2



Zoe Lees

Regional Vice President,
Regulatory Planning and
Policy
Xcel Energy

Zoë Lees is the New Mexico and Texas Regional Vice President of Planning and Policy for Xcel Energy. Prior to this role, Ms. Lees practiced law in the utility regulatory field for a decade, most recently as a Principal Attorney representing Southwestern Public Service Company for Xcel Energy General Counsel. Ms. Lees's practice has given her a wide array of experience with the policy and legal issues confronting New Mexico as it enters a time of significant energy transition. Born and raised in Santa Fe, New Mexico, Ms. Lees graduated cum laude from Wheaton College in Massachusetts. After graduation Ms. Lees spent a year in Malaysia as Fulbright Scholar. Ms. Lees graduated cum laude from the University of New Mexico School of Law, where she was the Editor-in-Chief of the Natural Resources Journal and the recipient of the Albert E. Utton Natural Resources Award. Ms. Lees currently sits on the New Mexico Chamber of Commerce



Rikki Seguin has been the Executive Director of the Interwest Energy Alliance since April 2019, where she oversees the organization's six-state strategic agenda, manages a team of policy and technical experts, and builds political power for the renewable energy industry. A seasoned coalition-builder, Rikki focuses on developing consensus positions across the industry and among Interwest's diverse membership. Before joining Interwest, she implemented a regional policy agenda for renewable energy development in the Pacific Northwest and worked as a community organizer in New Mexico, California, Texas, and Oregon on clean energy and climate campaigns. Rikki has contributed to numerous renewable energy policies regarding utility resource procurement, land use, tax treatment, and community solar. She is also an appointed member of the New Mexico Public Regulation Nominating Committee and serves on the Board of Directors for the Sandia Peak Ski Patrol. Rikki holds degrees in Physics and Astronomy from the University of Florida and is based in Albuquerque, NM.



Rikki Seguin

Executive Director
Interwest Energy Alliance



DAY 2 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

EXPLORING GLOBAL TRANSITION SCENARIOS WITH EN-ROADS 9:30am | Room 3



Joshua Loughman

Director of Modeling and Technology
Climate EN-Roads

Josh leads Climate Interactive's modeling and software development teams. He brings to the organization his diverse background in systems engineering, project management, modeling, and strategic foresight. He is an Expert on the Future of Energy at the World Economic Forum and an Affiliate Global Futures Scholar at the Global Futures Laboratory based at Arizona State University. Josh holds a Masters in Systems Engineering and a BSE in Aerospace Engineering from Arizona State University and a graduate certificate in System Dynamics from Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Josh is an active volunteer in several service organizations and is especially passionate about the work that he does with Engineers Without Borders and other international humanitarian engineering projects. He has done projects in Mexico, Dominican Republic, Czech Republic, Vietnam, Nepal, Honduras, and the Navajo Nation.



RETA

New Mexico Renewable Energy
Transmission Authority

NM RETA was created as a governmental instrumentality in 2007 by the NM Legislature to plan, finance, develop, permit, and acquire high voltage electric transmission and energy storage projects to connect renewable energy to the grid and promote economic development. NM RETA's Board of Directors includes the State Treasurer and the Secretary of NM Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, and five appointees by the Governor and Legislative leaders. NM RETA can enter into agreements with private developers and can own and lease assets. Projects under these agreements offer tax and other benefits to developers. NM RETA has several projects currently in development. Learn more at www.nmreta.com.



DAY 2 BREAKOUT SESSIONS



BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES 10:30-11:20am | Room 1



Megan Cesiel

Senior Manager
Community Activation
Salt River Project

With a robust 15-year career in community engagement, Megan has dedicated a significant portion of her life to fostering strong, vibrant communities. Her expertise lies in creating meaningful connections, orchestrating events that bring people together, and advocating for communal interests with passion and dedication. This commitment is mirrored in her personal life, where she finds joy and solace in the company of her beloved German Shepherd, Heber, and finding adventure through hiking and traveling.

Jeanette Pablo is the CEO of the Climate Equity Foundation, previously serving as the Director of the Climate Equity Initiative at Clean Air Task Force, where she addressed barriers and solutions through research and engagement with environmental justice communities.

Before joining CATF, she was General Counsel at the Energy Futures Initiative, contributing to clean energy research and decarbonization pathways. Ms. Pablo also held the position of Senior Advisor and Acting Deputy Director for Energy Systems at the U.S. Department of Energy, overseeing energy systems analysis and policy. Additionally, she was Director of Federal Affairs and Senior Climate Advisor for PNM Resources and represented the Tennessee Valley Authority on energy and climate policy. She holds a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center, an M.A. in Liberal Studies from Georgetown, and a B.A. from the University of Virginia, focusing on Soviet and East European Affairs.



Jeanette Pablo

Founder and CEO
Climate Equity Initiative



DAY 2 BREAKOUT SESSIONS



BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES 10:30-11:20am | Room 1



Malaquias Rael

Chairman of the Board
Questa Economic
Development Fund

Malaquias Rael Jr. is the Chairman of the Questa Economic Development Fund, a non-profit established in 2008 to diversify the economy of the Village of Questa and surrounding communities in northern Taos County. He has led initiatives including infrastructure investments in the Questa Business Park, trout habitat restoration on the Red River, recreational trail development, and support for local small businesses, the Questa Del Rio News, and the Questa Farmers Market. Serving as Mayor of Questa from 2006 to 2010, he is also the Chairman of the Questa Credit Union and helped restore St. Anthony's Catholic Church, where he teaches catechism to local youth. A successful small business owner, Malaquias is committed to the vitality of rural communities in New Mexico and shares his experiences in economic development.

Sayuri Yamada is the President of Kizuna Strategies, specializing in government and community relations across environment, energy, community development, social justice, and infrastructure. With 17 years in the energy sector, she served as Executive Director of Government and Public Affairs for the Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM), where she led PNM's transition to clean energy and played a key role in the Energy Transition Act legislation, garnering support from over 40 diverse stakeholder groups. Inspired by her father, Ted Yamada, a scientist at Los Alamos National Laboratory, she also served as Business Development Manager for Yamada Science & Art Corporation. In her non-profit efforts, Sayuri focuses on community growth and sustainability in New Mexico and is the Treasurer of the New Mexico International Women's Forum, promoting women's leadership and equality globally.



Sayuri Yamada

Principal
Kizuna Strategies



DAY 2 BREAKOUT SESSIONS



ENERGY STORAGE 10:30-11:20am | Room 2



Bo Downen

Director of Western State Affairs
American Clean Power Association

Bo Downen is Director of Western State Affairs at the American Clean Power Association. In this capacity he oversees ACP's legislative, regulatory and political affairs in the intermountain west and pacific northwest. Prior to ACP, Bo spent 15 years consensus-building among western electric utilities, tribal sovereigns, and state and federal agencies to advance the long-term sustainability of the Northwest's power supply. He served as a cabinet member to Montana Governor Steve Bullock advising on regional power and energy efficiency needs and on environmental mitigation matters. Bo serves as a board member to Tainable Regenerative Agriculture, an Oregon non-profit working to address climate change through carbon sequestration. He is a graduate of Georgetown University and Loyola University Chicago School of Law. Bo lives in the Flathead Valley of his home state of Montana.

Jennifer Gardner is an attorney and policy analyst with over a decade of experience in the electric power sector. Currently, she serves as Director of Regulatory and External Affairs for Hydrostor, a Canadian energy storage company specializing in Advanced Compressed Air Energy Storage (A-CAES). Before joining Hydrostor in February 2024, she founded Envision Energy, LLC, providing consulting services on wholesale electricity market design, renewable energy procurement, distributed energy resource integration, and grid reliability. Jennifer was also a Vice Chair of the Western Energy Imbalance Market Governing Body, overseeing a real-time energy market in the West. Previously, she directed the Regional Energy Markets Program at Western Resource Advocates and held roles with the Utah Governor's Office of Energy Development and the Western Interstate Energy Board.



Jennifer Gardner

Director of Regulatory and External Affairs
Hydrostor

DAY 2 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

ENERGY STORAGE 10:30-11:20am | Room 2



JD Rulien

Executive Director
Renewable Development
NextEra Energy Resources

JD Rulien is the executive director of development for NextEra Energy Resources, the largest generator of renewable energy from wind and solar, as well as a leader in battery storage. He oversees over 6 GW of renewable energy assets in various stages of development across the American Southwest, focusing on advancing renewable energy investments to meet the growing demand from load-serving entities in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas. His work aims to ensure the decarbonization of power markets in an affordable, reliable, and sustainable manner. Before joining NextEra, JD collaborated with the US Development Finance Corporation and served over 10 years in the U.S. Special Operations Community. He holds a graduate degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Rhiannon Scanlon is a member of the development team at rPlus Energies, bringing nearly 10 years of renewable energy siting experience. She began her career with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, providing technical analysis on energy compatibility and military missions. Rhiannon then led renewable energy policy for The Wilderness Society, a non-profit focused on wilderness and wildlife protection, while supporting responsible renewable energy development.

As a volunteer with Engineers Without Borders, she has collaborated on energy projects with indigenous communities in El Salvador and Panama. Rhiannon holds a master's degree from the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from George Washington University.



Rhiannon Scanlon

Development Associate
rPlus Energies



DAY 2 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

WOMEN IN ENERGY 11:30-12:20am | Room 1



Suedeen Kelly

Partner

Jenner & Block LLC

Suedeen represents clients in the electric and natural gas industries on business, regulatory, litigation, and policy matters, including renewable energy, electricity transmission, hydrogen, offshore wind, and energy projects on Indian lands. She assists private companies, public utilities, Native American tribes, and others in navigating and complying with federal, state, and local energy laws, offering guidance on regulatory actions and risk management. Suedeen recently led a transmission project over Indian lands, earning the Native American Finance Officers Association's Government Impact Deal of the Year Award. A former FERC commissioner, Suedeen is a recognized energy practitioner with experience at the New Mexico Public Service Commission, the Natural Resources Defense Council, and the US Environmental Protection Agency.

Melanie A. Kenderdine was appointed as Cabinet Secretary of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham in May 2024. Before this role, she co-founded and served as Executive Vice President of the Energy Futures Initiative, a nonprofit focused on advancing clean energy. Kenderdine held senior positions at the U.S. Department of Energy during the Obama and Clinton administrations, where she contributed to initiatives like Mission Innovation and the modernization of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. She also played a key role in significant energy policy developments, including the creation of the Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve and the return of land to the Ute tribe in Utah.



Melanie Kenderdine

Secretary-Designate



DAY 2 BREAKOUT SESSIONS



WOMEN IN ENERGY 11:30-12:20am | Room 1



Melissa Stark

Senior Advisor to Deputy
Assistant Secretary
Operations
DOE Office of Fossil
Fuel and Carbon
Management

Melissa Stark is a Senior Advisor in the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management. Prior to joining FECM, Melissa spent 30 years at Accenture. She was formerly Accenture's Global Lead for Energy Transition Services. Melissa has spent 30 years in Energy and Utilities working on projects across Europe, North America, Latin America, Asia, and the Middle East. Prior government service, Melissa was a member of the U.S. National Petroleum Council. She was also a Fellow of the U.K. Energy Institute; a member of the U.K. Electricity System Operator's Technology Advisory Council; on the advisory board of The Royal United Services Institute (RUSI)'s U.K. National Security and Net Zero Transition project, and a member of the U.K. Royal Academy of Engineering's Net Zero Grid Project Working Group. Melissa was also a Fellow of the World Economic Forum and the Accenture lead on the Clean Power and Electrification, Industrial Clusters, Net Zero Carbon Cities, Hydrogen, and Managing Investments in the Clean Energy Transition in Emerging Economies programs.

Ellen B. Stechel is the Executive Director of the Center for an Arizona Carbon-Neutral Economy and Co-Director of ASU LightWorks® at Arizona State University, where she is also a Professor of Practice in the School of Molecular Sciences and a Senior Futures Scientist at the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory. With a Ph.D. in chemical physics from the University of Chicago, Ellen has led and coordinated research programs across national laboratories, industry, government, and academia. Her work spans basic and applied research, policy, and the commercialization of emerging technologies, with a current focus on designing materials and systems for solar technologies to produce sustainable liquid hydrocarbons, hydrogen, clean water, renewable ammonia, and energy storage.



Ellen Stechel

Executive Director
Center for an Arizona
Carbon-Neutral Economy

Co-Director
ASU LightWorks
Arizona State University



DAY 2 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

METHANE & AIR QUALITY 11:30-12:20am | Room 2



Ian Dickinson

President and CEO
Longpath Technologies

Ian Dickinson is the President and CEO of LongPath Technologies, a leading climate technology company utilizing advanced laser-based sensors for real-time emissions monitoring in the energy sector. With over 20 years of executive leadership experience, Ian has driven LongPath's transformation into a commercially successful enterprise, emphasizing strategic direction, team building, and a culture of innovation. Before LongPath, Ian led a private equity-backed oilfield equipment manufacturer and Enservco, a publicly traded oilfield services company. Actively involved in Colorado's entrepreneurial ecosystem, he is a Young Presidents' Organization member, serves on the ACE Scholarships advisory board, and advises Caddis Capital.

Clara Pratte is a committed advocate for tribal communities, focusing on economic development, poverty alleviation, and tribal sovereignty. Raised on the Navajo reservation, she advises tribes nationwide and founded Strongbow Strategies in 2013, a government services firm.

In 2018, she joined Navajo Power to promote new energy development models on the Navajo Nation. Clara has held significant roles, including Tribal Engagements Director for the Biden/Harris Campaign, Chief of Staff for the Navajo Nation's Washington DC office, and National Director of the Office of Native American Affairs at the U.S. Small Business Administration. Her accolades include the 2020 Pritzker Emerging Environmental Genius Award and the 2020 Native Disruptor Award.



Clara Pratte

Partner, Founder and Board
President
Navajo Power



DAY 2 BREAKOUT SESSIONS



METHANE & AIR QUALITY 11:30-12:20am | Room 2



Hari Viswanathan

Energy and Natural
Resources Security Group
Earth and Environmental
Sciences Division
Los Alamos National
Laboratory

Hari Viswanathan holds advanced degrees in chemical and environmental engineering and is a senior scientist in the Computational Earth Science group at Los Alamos National Laboratory. He is PI on multiple energy security projects that have been a combination of R&D and programmatic work leading to a strong publication record of over 150 peer-reviewed journal publications on subsurface energy applications with an h-index of 55 and over 10,000 citations. He is a GSA Fellow, LANL Fellows Prize winner for Outstanding Research and a LANL Fellow. Viswanathan has expertise in subsurface fractured systems, reservoir modeling and machine learning, all critical elements for characterizing subsurface systems. He has led large multi-disciplinary, multi-institutional projects in DOE application areas such as carbon sequestration applications, unconventional oil and gas and locating undocumented orphan wells. He has also worked on nuclear waste disposal, nuclear nonproliferation and other DOE mission critical programs where he has integrated field observations, laboratory measurements, predictive modeling and uncertainty quantification.

Gerald has been with New Mexico Gas Company since January 2020, overseeing regulatory affairs, corporate strategy, business development, government and Native American relations, energy efficiency, and greenhouse gas reduction initiatives, including hydrogen projects. Prior to this, he was Vice President of Special Projects at Emera Inc., where he held various leadership roles for nearly 13 years, including leading government and stakeholder relations for a major subsea transmission project. Gerald began his career in journalism, later transitioning to roles in government relations and communications. He serves on the boards of the New Mexico Chamber of Commerce and the National Hispanic Cultural Center Foundation.



Gerald Weseen

Vice President of
Regulatory, Strategy &
External Affairs
New Mexico Gas Company



DEANNA ARCHULETA &
JENNIFER BRADFUTE



FuelCell
Energy

HF SINCLAIR CORPORATION



KIT CARSON ELECTRIC CO-OP



THANK YOU

TO OUR SILVER STAKHOLDER SPONSORS



Capitol Counsel & Consulting
Grid Flow
Hydrosonics
Kathairos Solutions
New Mexico Angels
Pajarito Powder
PNM
Sigma Advanced Technologies
TS-Nano
UbiQD, Inc

 **THANK YOU**
TO OUR SUPPORTER & EXHIBITORS

N E W M E X I C O



Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department



 **THANK YOU**
TO OUR PARTNER & IN KIND SPONSORS

THANK YOU

to the following women
for organizing
this conference:

Deanna Archuleta

Yasine Armstrong

Aimee Barabe

Carrie Robin Brunder

Rikki-Lee Chavez

Gabrielle Gerholt

Fayth Gillespie

Bianca Gutierrez

Johanna Hernandez

Jessie Hunt

McCall Johnson

Sydney Lienemann

Andrea Maestas

Amy Miller

Melissa Miller

Jennifer Raney

Gloria Ruiz

Valerie Salim- Meza

Rikki Seguin

Randi Valverde

Ashley Wagner

AnnaLinden Weller

Sayuri Yamada



nmwomenlead.org

SCAN FOR
CONFERENCE
INFORMATION:

